

# The Third Sunday of Advent



December 13, 2020



# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

A Quiet Joy

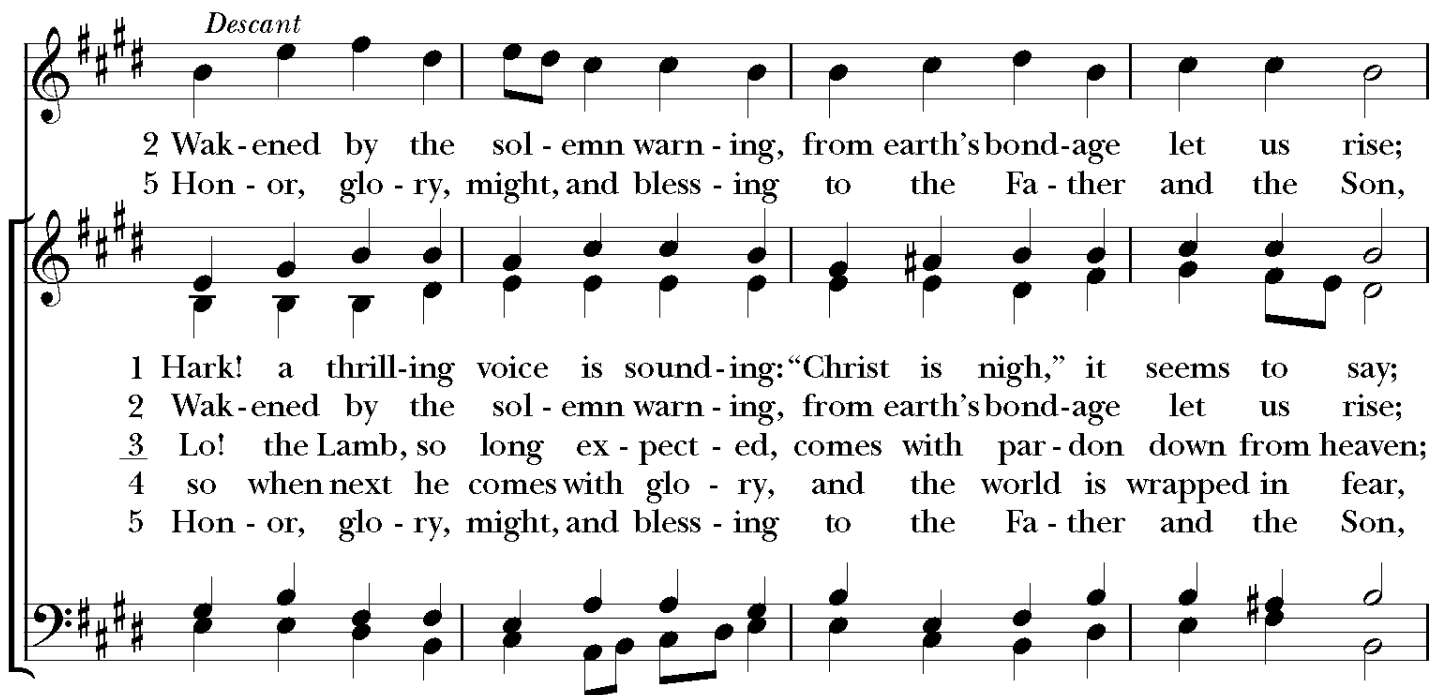
Marcel Dupré

OPENING HYMN

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

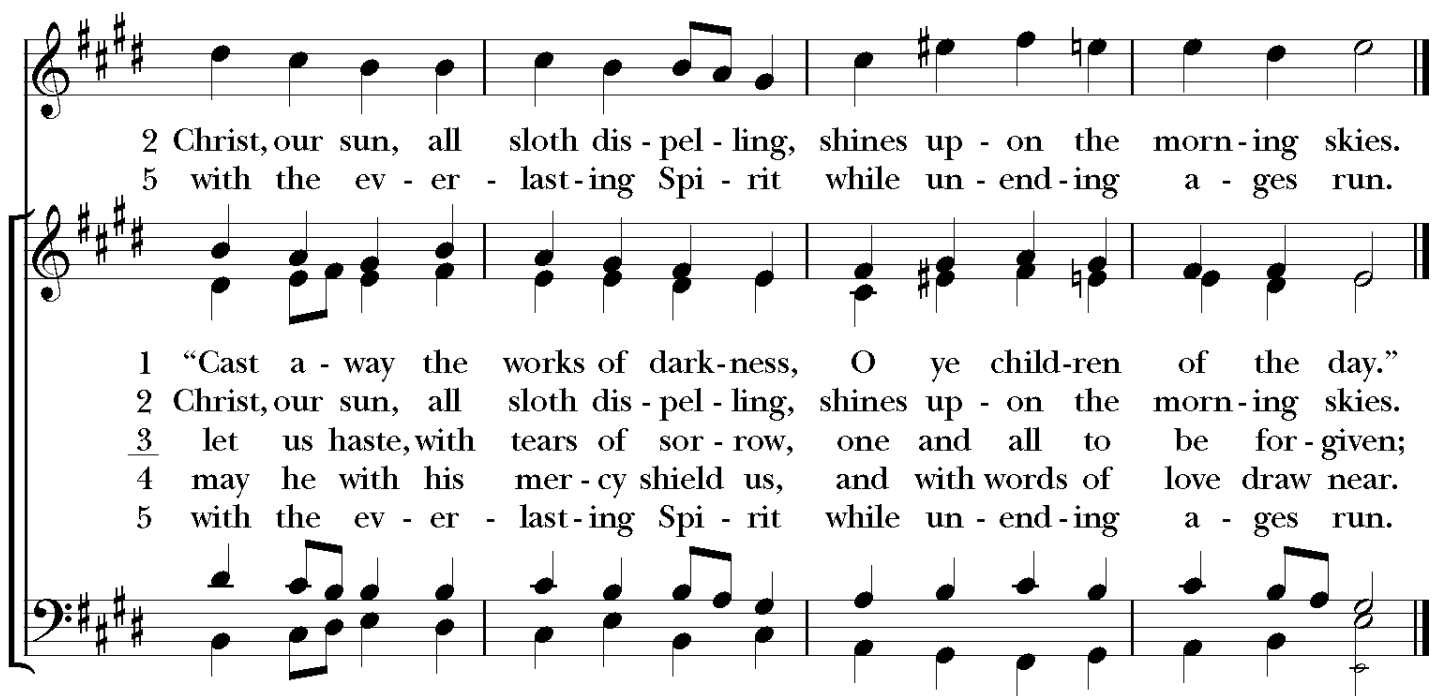
Hymnal 59

*Descant*



2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;  
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;  
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,



2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."  
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;  
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.  
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt. Music: *Merton*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)  
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## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Enriching Our Worship*

*Officiant* Blessed are you, holy and living One.  
*People* **You come to your people and set them free.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 212

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

*Lector* A reading from Isaiah.

The spirit of the LORD God is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge

that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the LORD God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we are glad in deed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

## SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

*Lector* A reading from First Thessalonians.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## SEQUENCE HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel, *verses 5-6* Hymnal 56

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

## GOSPEL

John 1:6-8,19-28

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## HOMILY

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*A New Zealand Prayer Book*

*Officiant* Together let us affirm our faith.

*All* **You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are our God. We worship you.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

based on Advent hymns  
Emily Williams Guffey

*Reader* Let us pray for the church and for the world.

Creator of the stars of night, which keep watch when our own faith is dim:  
Awaken hope and kindle our longing for your return.

In your mercy,

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Reader* Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set your people free:

Release us from our sins and fears, that we may live in your light and truth.

In your mercy,

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Reader* O Come, Desire of nations: bind in one the hearts of humankind.

Dissolve our sad divisions, and strengthen us to work for peace.

In your mercy,

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Reader* With the angels who announce your coming with shouts of joy, let us name the blessings of our lives, especially those who celebrate birthdays this week, including *Karen Fleming, Grace Brandon*, and those we now name. (*People add names silently or aloud.*)

*Silence*

You lift up our lowliness in many marvelous ways.

In your mercy,

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Reader* Comfort all who sit in the darkness of illness, grief, or distress, especially *Marie Abdulla, Pat Ald, Sue Barber, Genet Barthwell, Tim Cook, David Dieter, Digory, Kate Latham Driscoll, Debbie Faust, Vincent Faust, Grace, Hope Hoffman, Judith, Lauren Keils, Lucinda Keils, Matthew Klein, Kathryn Lincoln, Arnold Matthews, Jane McFeely, Jonathon Moon, Paul, Kathleen S., Marilyn Shably, Owen Sprague, Gregg Stewart, Len St. Jean, Jason Thomas, Mimi Van Scoter, Carol Ann Watson, Warren Webb, Megan White*, and those we now name. (*People add names silently or aloud.*)

*Silence*

Speak to them your peace, which passes all understanding.

In your mercy,

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Reader* Welcome into your glory those we love but see no longer, especially James Atwater, brother of Chuck Atwater, who died on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, and those we now name. (*People add names silently or aloud.*)

*Silence*

May light perpetual shine upon them, bright as sun and moon together.

In your mercy,

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Officiant* Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; comfort those who mourn, and give new hope to your people, who seek you and trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign, one God for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 360

*Officiant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*All* **Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Officiant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*All* **Amen.**

## PEACE

*Officiant* In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. – *Luke 1:78-79*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*The people share with one another signs of Christ's peace.*

## VESTRY GREETING

*Officiant* Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*Please give generously at [christcd.org/online-giving](http://christcd.org/online-giving)  
or by mailing a check to Christ Church Detroit, 960 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, 48207.*

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Not Too Far From Here

by Kim Boyce

Somebody's down to their last dime, somebody's running out of time  
Not too far from here.

Somebody's got nowhere else to go, somebody needs a little hope  
Not too far from here.

And I may not know their name, but I'm praying just the same,  
That you'll use me, Lord, to wipe away the tears,  
'Cause somebody's crying not too far from here.

Somebody's troubled and confused, somebody's got nothing left to lose  
Not too far from here.

Somebody's forgotten how to trust and somebody's dying for love  
Not too far from here.

It may be a stranger's face, but I'm praying for your grace  
To move in me and take away the fear  
'Cause somebody's hurting not too far from here.

Help me, Lord, not to turn away from pain.  
Help me not to rest while those around me weep.  
Give me your strength and compassion when somebody finds the road of life too steep  
Not too far from here.

Somebody's troubled and confused, somebody's got nothing left to lose  
Not too far from here.

Somebody's forgotten how to trust and somebody's dying for love  
Not too far from here.

Now I'm letting down my guard and I'm opening my heart.  
Help me speak your love to every needful ear.  
Someone is waiting not too far from here.  
Someone is waiting not too far from here.

## PRESENTATION HYMN

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say  
*All* **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*Common Worship*

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.  
*All* **As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.  
Amen.**

*The priest does not receive, but begins the Prayer for Spiritual Communion.*

## **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

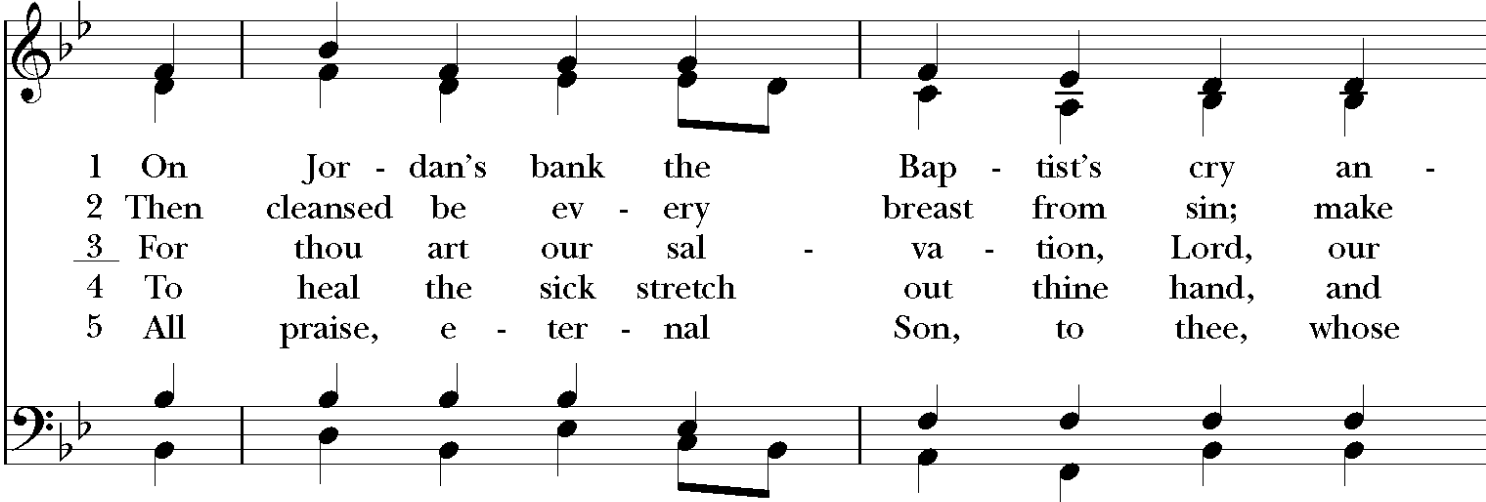
*Common Worship*

*Celebrant* Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love,  
you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels,  
and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.  
*All* **Although we cannot gather in person as a congregation  
and consume these gifts of bread and wine together,  
we thank you that we do receive the sacrament of Christ's presence,  
the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
may we embody your desire and be renewed for your service,  
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

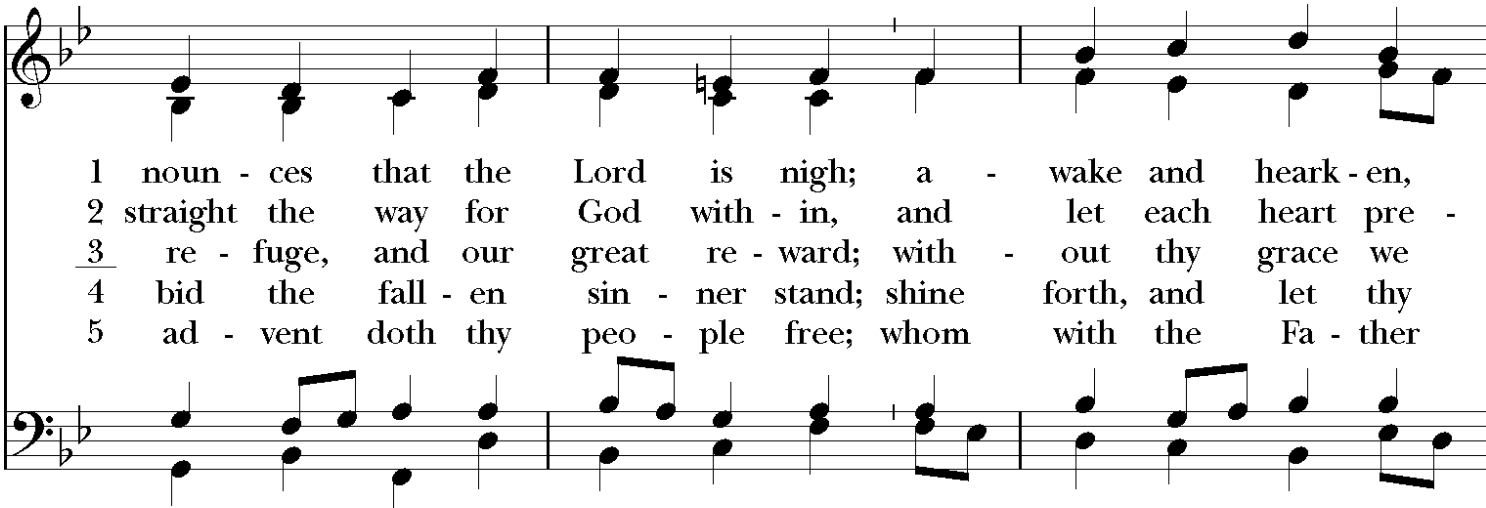
## CONCLUDING COLLECT

*Celebrant* Lord Jesus, stay with us. Assure us with and revive us in the truth that in you alone, we are and always will be one body. Nourish us with solace and strength to be bread for the world, and bring us at last to that heavenly banquet, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

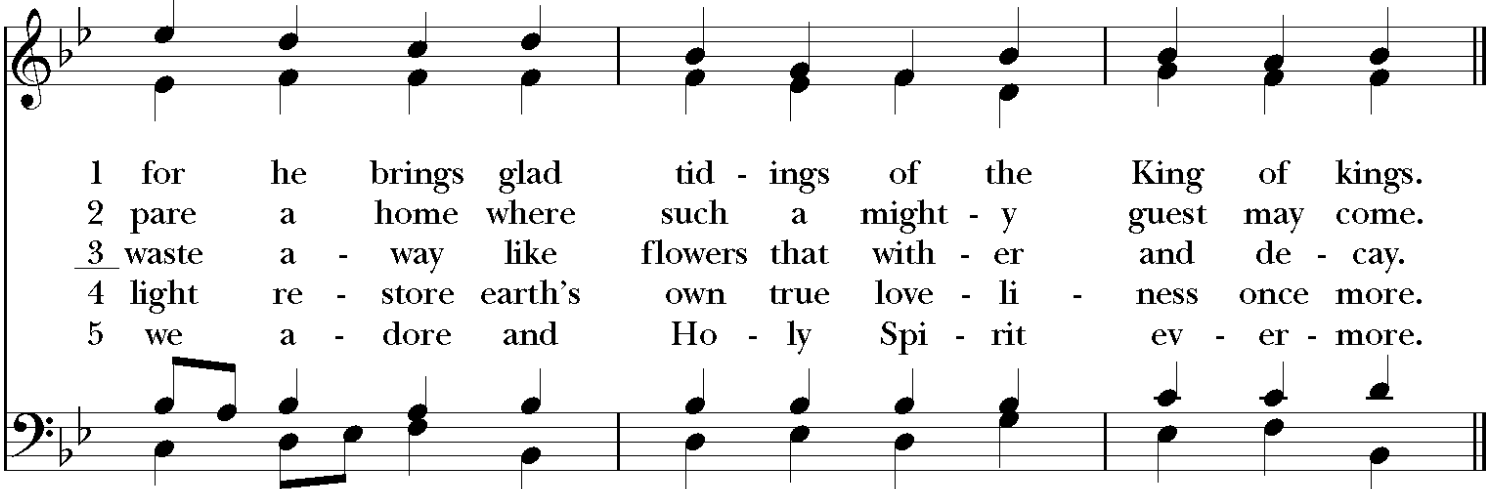
## BLESSING



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose



1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther



1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.  
 Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

## DISMISSAL

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

## **ABOUT THE ART AND MUSIC**

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